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The sheer size of the Walmart Corporation should make us stop and think twice about expanding its power to the field of finance. We must weigh what the effect of a bank of this size would have on the local community. I am afraid that it would have the power to control local business. For example, after driving local banks out, could it refuse to make loans to local businesses? Nor is Walmart a reliable ethical business. Its record of abusing its employees (having them work off the books and closing a store rather than allow a union) so that it may make more money may forewarn us that we need to be very cautious in granting it more power. Certainly it would need to be regulated in the most strict manner, such as by the Federal Reserve.

Harriet Schlesinger